United Nations A/C.5/56/41

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 April 2002

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 133 (a)
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Death and disability benefits

Note by the Secretary-General

Contents

		Paragraphs	Page
	Introduction	1–3	2
I.	Process for settlement of death and disability claims	4–5	2
II.	Improved efficiency in the processing of death and disability claims	6–8	3
III.	Request of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	9	4
IV.	Conclusion	10	4
V.	Action to be taken by the General Assembly	11	5
Annex			
	Death and disability claims processed during the year 2001		6
	A. Annual report for the year 2001 by country		6
	B. Annual report for the year 2001 by mission		7
	C. Total number of casualties reported and claims submitted for incidents occurring from 1 January 1997 to 31 December 2001		8
	D. Volume and value of death and disability claims processed		9

02-33273 (E) 170402

Introduction

1. The information contained in the annex to the present note is submitted pursuant to General Assembly decision 54/459 B as well as the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions set forth in its reports A/54/782 and A/55/883.

2. In accordance with those recommendations, the present note summarizes the progress made in 2001 in processing death and disability claims (tables A and B). The total number of casualties reported and claims submitted for incidents occurring from 1 January 1997 to 31 December 2001 is presented in table C. Table D indicates the volume and value of claims processed during 2001.

3. In the last annual report, dated 31 December 2001, 90 claims were pending. During the year 2001, 96 claims were received, bringing the total number of claims available for processing to 186. Of those 186 claims, 108 were processed, with 78 claims pending at 31 December 2001. Those 78 pending claims include 46 claims for which documentation is lacking from the troop contributors. Additionally, as at 31 December 2001, of the 78 pending claims, there were 21 claims based on the old methodology. Subsequently, 18 of those claims have been processed, leaving an outstanding balance of three claims based on the old methodology as at 31 March 2002.

I. Process for settlement of death and disability claims

4. The new process for the settlement of death and disability claims was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/177 of 18 December 1997. The work process begins when a troop contributor submits a claim for death or disability of a contingent member to United Nations Headquarters in New York through their Permanent Mission. A claims officer in the Claims and Information Management Section, Department of Peacekeeping Operations, electronically retrieves the notice of casualty and the Board of Inquiry report. If the Board of Inquiry report is not available at Headquarters, a request to confirm the notice of casualty is sent to the field in order to verify that the incident was in fact service-related. The new methodology has introduced greater simplicity and timeliness, as the troop contributors now need only submit a one-page claim immediately after the incident, whereas with the old methodology troop contributors were required to provide full documentation relevant to their national legislation. For a death claim, the confirmation of notice of casualty is sufficient to process the claim. For a disability claim, a medical report assessing the percentage of disability is required. That report has to be submitted by the troop contributor with the claim and reviewed by the Medical Services Division at Headquarters if necessary. Thereafter, the claim is certified and forwarded to the Accounts Division for settlement.

5. In order to help facilitate and accelerate the process, the Permanent Missions are given instructions on the processing of death and disability claims during the negotiations of memorandums of understanding. Moreover, the claims officers work closely with the military advisers of the troop contributors, providing assistance and training when needed. A delay in processing claims is mostly due to incomplete claims. Some claims may be missing supporting documents, such as payment instructions, that can be obtained in a short time, whereas other problems may take

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

much longer to rectify and may result in the claim being rejected. Specifically, when a claim is submitted without substantiating documentation from the field and there is no notice of casualty in the casualty database, nor was the peacekeeping mission aware of the incident, the Claims Section has difficulty in verifying that the injury was service-related or that it occurred while the contingent member was in the peacekeeping mission. Another reason for delays and/or rejection of claims is if the injury is without any resultant permanent disability. If a contingent member is injured in a peacekeeping mission and has no permanent disability after obtaining proper medical care, a disability claim cannot be entertained.

II. Improved efficiency in the processing of death and disability claims

6. The Claims Section has been restructured, by peacekeeping mission, to facilitate the overall processing of claims. The new structure provides claims officers with the ability to deal with the full scope of a mission, specifically requiring them to participate in the full life-cycle of a mission/claim — from the negotiation of the memorandum of understanding, to the verification and processing of all claims generated in the mission, be they in the areas of death and disability, letters of assist or contingent-owned equipment. This structure thus provides each claims officer with a wide range of knowledge of mission operations, thereby increasing their ability to function effectively and efficiently in collecting necessary information, and in being able to quickly analyse and process the data/claim. Prior to the restructuring in November 2001, all claims officers were provided with extensive training in the processing of death and disability claims, based on materials created internally. It is planned to repeat that training in the third quarter of 2002.

7. The Secretariat has carried out an analysis of claims rejected over the past seven years in order to better administer and improve the processing of claims. The data show that 71 per cent of the claims were rejected for lack of substantiating documentation from the field. There are two reasons for this: one is that the injury may have occurred in the peacekeeping mission but was never reported; the second and most common reason is that the contingent member may have submitted a claim to his or her Government after repatriation. Efforts are under way through the Military Adviser's Office to sensitize contingent commanders to make sure that all incidents resulting in injury to personnel are reported via a notice of casualty. Sympathetic consideration is given to death claims and all efforts are made to pay such claims. However, since the special arrangements approved by the General Assembly for certain peacekeeping operations provide for the retention of unliquidated obligations owed to Governments for a period up to five years, claims are rejected when they are submitted later than five years from the date of incident or if they were not service-incurred. Additionally, a claim must not be as a result of pre-existing medical conditions. The Secretariat often sends letters reminding troop contributors to submit claims before the five-year limit expires.

8. With regard to incidents resulting from traffic accidents and aircraft crashes, the activities of the Board of Inquiry often take a long period of time to be completed. To help expedite the settlement of death and disability claims associated with such incidents, the Secretariat has modified slightly the request for notice of

casualty confirmation, allowing the Force Commander to attest that there was no gross negligence or wilful misconduct on the part of the victim without waiting for the Board of Inquiry's investigation to be completed. The Secretariat has noted that the modification has greatly reduced the delay previously experienced with such cases. Moreover, in the case of disability, a percentage of permanent disability cannot be estimated until substantial medical treatment is given. The Secretariat has also slightly modified the request of notice of casualty confirmation for such cases, to allow the Force Commander to confirm that the injury was service-related without giving the percentage of disability, as was the practice previously. However, it should be noted that, owing to the very nature of a disability claim, that is, to allow time and medicine to heal the wound, these claims usually spread out over time. Proper medical treatment must be given before a medical board can assess the permanent disability percentage of an injured contingent member.

III. Request of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

9. In paragraph 3 of its report dated 3 April 2001 (A/55/883), the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions requested that a column be added to tables A and B of the annex indicating the dollar amount of the claims settled and paid during the specific period. In this connection, table D has been added to the annex in the present report indicating the dollar amount of claims processed for settlement. It should be noted that the dollar amounts for claims received in local currencies reflect the exchange rate on the date the claim was certified for payment, or, as concerns rejected claims, on the date the claim was closed. Out of 108 claims processed during 2001, a total of 71 claims in the amount of $2,982,638 were certified for payment. The remaining 37 claims in the amount of $1,144,841 were not approved. Claims are declined for several reasons, with the main reasons being lack of documentation to substantiate the claim, a pre-existing medical condition, or the absence of a permanent disability.

IV. Conclusion

10. The report on death and disability claims processing was initially required quarterly and was later condensed to an annual report, with the primary intention being to keep track of the backlog of death and disability cases pending processing, particularly those cases that were processed under the old methodology. As stated earlier in the present report, and in the prior year's report, there is no longer any backlog of claims. The new death and disability methodology is working well and is well understood by all concerned parties and the Claims Section has been able to process the claims in a timely manner. In fact, except in the case of the United Nations Peace Forces (UNPF) headquarters where a shortage of cash delayed payment, almost all claims are paid within three months from the date of submission. In the light of the foregoing, the General Assembly may wish to consider whether there is a continuing need for such a report to be provided outside of the framework of the overall claims processing.

V. Action to be taken by the General Assembly

11. It is recommended that the General Assembly consider whether there is a continuing need for the death and disability annual report to be provided outside of the framework of the overall claims processing.

Annex

Death and disability claims processed during the year 2001

A. Annual report for the year 2001 by country

Country	*Claims pending as at 1 January 2001*	*Claims received in 2001*	*Claims processed in 2001*[a]	*Claims pending as at 31 December 2001*[b]
Austria	6	1	6	1
Bangladesh	-	1	-	1
Brazil	-	1	-	1
Denmark	27	-	25	2
Fiji	1	1	1	1
Finland	2	1	3	-
France	7	4	11	-
Ghana	1	2	2	1
Ireland	-	4	4	-
Jordan	1	52	7	46
Kenya	-	2	2	-
Namibia	1	-	-	1
Nepal	2	3	4	1
New Zealand	-	2	2	-
Nigeria	8	10	14	4
Pakistan	-	2	2	-
Philippines	-	2	2	-
Poland	4	-	-	4
Portugal	-	4	4	-
Thailand	-	1	-	1
Uruguay	2	-	1	1
Zambia	28	2	17	13
Zimbabwe	-	1	1	-
Total	**90**	**96**	**108**	**78**

[a] The number of claims processed includes claims that have been approved for payment and those that have been rejected.

[b] A total of 21 of the 78 pending claims are being processed under the old methodology.

B. Annual report for the year 2001 by mission

Mission	*Claims pending as at 1 January 2001*	*Claims received in 2001*	*Claims processed in 2001*[a]	*Claims pending as at 31 December 2001*[b]
MONUA	1	-	-	1
ONUMOZ	-	2	2	-
UNAMIR	5	-	4	1
UNAMSIL	9	47	24	32
UNAVEM	25	4	15	14
UNCRO	13	-	12	1
UNDOF	7	-	6	1
UNFICYP	-	1	-	1
UNIFIL	7	7	11	3
UNIKOM	1	1	1	1
UNMEE	-	1	1	-
UNPREDEP	1	-	1	-
UNPROFOR	20	4	23	1
UNTAET	1	29	8	22
Total	**90**	**96**	**108**	**78**

[a] The number of claims processed includes claims that have been approved for payment and those that have been rejected.

[b] A total of 21 of the 78 pending claims are being processed under the old methodology.

C. Total number of casualties reported and claims submitted for incidents occurring from 1 January 1997 to 31 December 2001[a]

(as at 31 December 2001)

Mission	Fatalities			Injuries and illness			Total		
	NOTICAS received	No. of claims received	No. of claims expected[b]	NOTICAS received	No. of claims received	No. of claims expected[c]	NOTICAS received	No. of claims received	No. of claims expected
MINURCA	2	1	1	1	-	1	3	1	2
MINURSO	2	1	1	4	1	3	6	2	4
MONUA	9	7	2	26	1	25	35	8	27
MONUC	1	-	1	1	-	1	2	-	2
UNAMSIL	48	17	31	112	10	102	160	27	133
UNAVEM	4	1	3	24	-	24	28	1	27
UNDOF	3	2	1	3	1	2	6	3	3
UNFICYP	2	-	2	5	-	5	7	-	7
UNIFIL	29	21	8	240	5	235	269	26	243
UNIKOM	3	1	2	12	2	10	15	3	12
UNMEE	2	1	1	12	-	12	14	1	13
UNMIK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
UNPREDEP	3	3	-	5	-	5	8	3	5
UNSMIH	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1
UNTAES	5	1	4	23	3	20	28	4	24
UNTAET	15	9	6	51	2	49	66	11	55
Total	**128**	**65**	**63**	**520**	**25**	**495**	**648**	**90**	**558**

[a] Only notifications of casualty received in the past five years are included. It should be noted that claims may be submitted for which no notice of casualty was submitted by the peacekeeping mission. Such claims would be certified using other substantiating documents originating from the peacekeeping mission.

[b] From past experience, it is possible to assume that death claims for all fatalities will be submitted.

[c] On the basis of past experience, permanent disability claims are received for only 20 per cent of the injuries and illnesses reported. On this basis, from the 495 notification of casualty reports received for which claims are yet to be submitted, approximately 99 final claims are expected to be received.

D. Volume and value of death and disability claims processed[a]

Annual report for the year 2001

(United States dollars unless otherwise indicated)

Country	Total no. of claims processed	Death claims		Disability claims	
		Number	Value[b]	Number	Value[b]
Austria	6	-	-	6	377 889
Denmark	25	1	102 366	24	662 142
Fiji	1	1	50 000	-	-
Finland	3	1	50 000	2	1 497
France	11	1	19 611	10	354 483
Ghana	2	1	50 000	1	18 000
Ireland	4	4	200 000	-	-
Jordan	7	-	-	7	102 500
Kenya	2	1	50 000	1	12 500
Nepal	4	3	115 072	1	5 500
New Zealand	2	2	103 952	-	-
Nigeria	14	14	700 000	-	-
Pakistan	2	2	100 000	-	-
Philippines	2	2	100 000	-	-
Portugal	4	4	252 966	-	-
Uruguay	1	-	-	1	18 000
Zambia[c]	17	6	300 000	11	331 000
Zimbabwe	1	1	50 000	-	-
Total	**108**	**44**	**2 .3 967**	**64**	**1 883 511**

[a] Processed claims cover all claims certified for payment as well as rejected claims.

[b] United States dollar amount for claims submitted in the local currency is as of the date of certification or rejection.

[c] Several claims from Zambia had no claimed amount; amount reflected is a close approximation based on their national legislation.

United Nations A/C.5/56/42

General Assembly

Distr.: General
16 April 2002

Original: English

Fifth Committee
Agenda item 123
Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Conference and support services extended to the Counter-Terrorism Committee in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001)

Revised estimates under sections 2 and 27D of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

On 28 September 2001, the Security Council adopted resolution 1373 (2001) on measures to prevent terrorism and established the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

The experience of the last few months indicates that a significant level of additional conference and other support services are required for the Committee's activities. These requirements have not been programmed in the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. During the first months of the year 2002, services have been provided for the Committee by utilizing the resources programmed for servicing of meetings of other intergovernmental organs which have been scheduled for the second half of 2002. In view of the magnitude of the services involved, these arrangements cannot continue without a detrimental effect on other meetings programmed for the year 2002.

It is estimated that the additional requirements arising from conference and other support services for the Counter-Terrorism Committee in the year 2002 will amount to $10,537,500.

Should the Counter-Terrorism Committee continue its activities in the year 2003, appropriate proposals will be submitted at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

02-33548 (E) 250402

The activities related to the servicing of the Counter-Terrorism Committee are of an extraordinary nature and should therefore be dealt with as provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986.

I. Background

1. Following the events of 11 September 2001, the Security Council adopted resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 on measures to prevent terrorism, and decided, inter alia, to establish the Counter-Terrorism Committee, consisting of all the members of the Council, to monitor implementation of that resolution with the assistance of appropriate expertise. The Security Council also called upon all States to report to the Committee, no later than 90 days from the adoption of the resolution and thereafter according to a timetable to be proposed by the Committee, on the steps they had taken to implement the resolution. The programme of work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee contained in document S/2001/986 was endorsed by the Security Council on 23 October 2001 (see S/2001/999).

2. Following the adoption of resolution 1373 (2001), a small secretariat was established in the Department of Political Affairs to provide substantive support for the Counter-Terrorism Committee, including expert services of consultants to advise and provide support for the Committee in all aspects of counter-terrorism. The related expenditure was authorized under General Assembly resolution 54/252 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenditures, and subsequently reported to the General Assembly in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001, as part of commitments concurred in by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in respect of decisions of the Security Council (see A/56/674 and Corr.1) as it related to the maintenance of international peace and security. Corresponding expenditures relating to conference and support services for the Committee's activities, while not specifically identified in that report, were also reported to the General Assembly in the context of the overall expenditures of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services and the Office of Central Support Services within the framework of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001. Related appropriations for the 2000-2001 biennium were granted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 56/240 A and B of 24 December 2001 and 56/240 C of 27 March 2002.

3. For the 2002-2003 biennium, resources for the substantive servicing of the Committee were requested in the context of the report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized (see A/C.5/56/25), and the related provisions were approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 56/255 of 24 December 2001 and 56/254 D of 27 March 2002.

4. In view of the insufficient experience and information on the servicing requirements of the Committee, it was not possible to estimate requirements in the biennium 2002-2003 for conferencing and central support services for the meetings of the Committee, neither immediately following the adoption of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) nor prior to the close of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly in December 2001.

II. Experience in servicing the Counter-Terrorism Committee

5. During the October-December period of 2001, the Committee held 18 meetings serviced by the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services and by the Office of Central Support Services, respectively, under the arrangements established for the subsidiary machinery of the Security Council, including production of summary records for its proceedings. The first report was submitted on 10 November 2001 and by the end of November, the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services had received five reports. At the time, it was estimated that no more than 60 replies from Member States would be received by the 27 December deadline.

6. By the end of December 2001, it had become apparent that the earlier workload estimates needed to be revised as the servicing workload had been progressively increasing. At the time of writing, 144 reports of Member States on implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) have been received. That involved the following workload:

	Number of meetings held	Number of reports translated	Number of translated pages
October-December 2001	18	11	137
January 2002	7	34	627
February 2002	16	29	598
March 2002	14	28	518
April 2002	7[a]	29[b]	565[b]
May 2002	-	13[b]	130[b]
Total	62	144	2 575

[a] Number of meetings held as at 16 April.
[b] To be produced.

This workload relates to the first round of reporting by Member States on implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). The total translation output for this period of the Committee's activities amounts to 12,875 pages which, in the terms of the work involved, is equivalent to 14.5 translator and 9 text-processor posts employed for the period October 2001 to May 2002. For the period October 2001 to March 2002, 68 meetings were scheduled for the Committee to review the reports of Member States, out of which 55 meetings were held and 13 meetings were cancelled by the Committee.

III. Provisions in the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

7. On the basis of established methodology, conference servicing requirements are programmed under section 2 of the proposed programme budget through the biennial calendar of conferences and meetings, which is approved by the Assembly on the recommendation of the Committee of Conferences in the year preceding the biennium to which the calendar applies, and is subsequently adjusted during the course of the biennium. Since there is a degree of uncertainty inherent in the timing and volume of the demand for services, conference servicing capacity utilizing established posts is programmed below the foreseeable level required and is supplemented as necessary through the use of temporary assistance. Included also in the programme of meetings are special sessions of the General Assembly and special conferences which were known at the time of the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, as well as services to meetings of regional groups and other major groupings of Member States, on an as-available basis depending on the actual scheduling of meetings included in the calendar of conferences. The meetings of the Counter-Terrorism Committee were not part of the calendar approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/242 of 24 December 2001.

8. In respect of the Office of Central Support Services, provisions in the programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium are based on the servicing of regularly scheduled meetings on the understanding that, should additional mandates for special sessions of the General Assembly or special conferences arise requiring central support services, a statement of programme budget implications will be submitted requesting additional appropriations.

9. As indicated in paragraph 4 above, while appropriations have been granted by the General Assembly for the substantive servicing of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, no provisions have been made in the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 for either conference or central support services that the Committee may require.

10. Given the priority attached to the activities of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, conference and other support services have been provided for the Committee during the first quarter of 2002 on a priority basis by utilizing existing appropriations for 2002. In the light of the experience gained since the establishment of the Committee, as well as the magnitude of the servicing required, it has become apparent that the current ad hoc servicing arrangement cannot continue without a significant detrimental effect on other intergovernmental meetings programmed in the calendar of conferences and meetings. Therefore, in order to provide services for the meetings of the Committee, as outlined in its work programme, and at the same time maintain the appropriate services for other bodies in the calendar of conferences and meetings, an additional appropriation is sought for the servicing of the Committee.

IV. Additional workload arising from servicing of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and relating resource requirements

11. As indicated in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (see A/56/6 (sect. 2), para. 2.8), the demand for services during the biennium 2000-2001 and the projected demand for the biennium 2002-2003 was higher than the historical average number of meetings during the past few bienniums. Temporary assistance resources, normally intended to deal with peaks of workload, were consequentially fully committed to accommodate the general demand for services. The total existing capacity, consisting of permanent, temporary and borrowed staff, at Headquarters is 68 meetings with interpretation per week, while the actual average number of meetings during the period from January to March 2002 was 79 meetings per week and continues to increase on the basis of the approved programme of meetings. Likewise, the translation capacity, consisting of permanent, temporary and contractual staff, at Headquarters is between 3,800 and 4,000 pages per month averaged across a full year. The actual monthly average capacity utilization from January to March 2002 was 3,700 pages at a time when the demand for translation services is traditionally relatively low.

12. During the first quarter of 2002, the Secretariat has held consultations with the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee regarding the scope and parameters of the meeting programme of the Committee foreseen for the year 2002 and the scope of the services to be provided by the Secretariat.

13. On the basis of the experience servicing the Committee during the first quarter of 2002 and upon consultations with the Chairman of the Committee, it has been estimated that the workload related to the servicing of the Committee would involve four or five meetings of the Committee per week, including translation and processing of, on average, 700 pages of documentation per month. Furthermore, in order to minimize the demand for services to the extent possible, during consultations with the Chairman of the Committee it has been agreed that internal arrangements will be made to avoid holding meetings of the Committee concurrently with those of the Security Council and/or its sanctions committees. It has also been agreed that no summary records of the Committee proceedings will be produced, unless a request for summary records for a specific meeting is put forward by the Committee members. For the purpose of these estimates, it has been assumed that one such meeting per week will be served with summary records.

14. An attempt has been made by the Secretariat to explore the possibility of absorbing the additional workload involved in servicing the Committee during 2002 within the established capacity of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services programmed in the 2002-2003 budget. The revised overall meeting programme projected for the year 2002 at Headquarters, based on actual programme delivery for the period from January to March 2002 (946 serviced meetings with interpretation) and on a projected meetings workload for the remaining nine months of 2002 (2,882 meetings with interpretation), would amount to 3,828 meetings with interpretation as compared with 3,500 meetings with interpretation programmed in the proposed programme budget for the current biennium (see A/56/6 (sect. 2), table A.2.17). It appears from these analyses that the Committee's projected 217 meetings in 2002 cannot be absorbed from within the capacity of the programme budget under section 2.

15. On the basis of the parameters reported in paragraph 13 above and taking into account the approved meeting programme of other United Nations intergovernmental organs for 2002, it has been estimated that, in order to accommodate the meeting programme of the Committee, the resources equivalent to 9 interpreter and 1.5 conference support staff full-time positions would need to be provided for 2002 on a temporary basis. As regards the translation and reproduction of Committee documentation, the experience of the month of January 2002 indicates that, out of a total of 627 translated pages, the workload equivalent of 400 pages has been processed from within the existing capacity of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services by delaying the processing of non-priority documentation. The monthly average projected translation workload for the Committee in 2002 would amount to 700 pages. While experience shows substantial fluctuation in the level of demand for translation services at Headquarters, with peak requirements during the spring, early summer and fall, it is estimated that 200 pages per month on average could be processed within

the existing capacity of the Department at Headquarters, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi by utilizing remote translation arrangements to the extent possible and delaying non-priority documentation. The remaining 500 pages of documentation per month for the Committee would represent an additional workload for which resources have not been provided under section 2 of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 and which could not be handled while meeting other documentation demands.

16. The processing of the remaining 500 pages per month would require the recruitment of additional short-term staff. On the basis of established standards, the additional workforce has been estimated as equivalent to 41 translator/reviser full-time positions. On the basis of the current ratio between translators and text-processors at Headquarters, 30 additional temporary positions for text-processors would also be required. The total additional requirement for interpretation and translation and summary records services in 2002 have been estimated in the amount of $9,954,000. These requirements are detailed in annex I to the present report.

17. The approach used in the estimation of the additional conference-servicing requirements for the Counter-Terrorism Committee represents a departure from established practice. Normally, it has been the practice to accommodate the programme of conference services approved in the context of annual calendars of meetings and conferences of the United Nations on the premise that the actual number of meetings is consistent with the level and pattern of meetings and conferences over the last five years. This accommodation has been made on the basis of initial budgeting provisions without subsequent revised estimates. In that connection, it may be recalled that the proposal to discontinue the practice of annual consolidated statements of programme budget implications arising from additional conference-servicing requirements and of the need for incremental additional resources in cases when the actual number of meetings is not consistent with the pattern of meetings and conferences over the last five years, was proposed by the Secretary-General in his report A/42/225 of 20 April 1987. That proposal was made on the basis of the experience of the Secretariat in servicing intergovernmental meetings during the 1980s. The situation has changed significantly since then and, in particular, over the last two bienniums. The total number of United Nations meetings in the biennium 2000-2001 reached the level of 31,667 and was projected, at the time of the budget preparation, at the level of 32,929 for 2002-2003, as compared with 29,767 meetings serviced by the Department in 1998-1999, or higher by 6.4 per cent and 10.6 per cent, respectively. The excess in demand for services in the biennium 2000-2001 versus the resources programmed initially was the main reason for the additional expenditure of $36.8 million reported under section 2 in the budget performance report for the biennium 2000-2001 (see A/56/674, schedule 1). In the current situation, when the capacity of the Department is already fully utilized for programmed meetings, there is no room to absorb the costs arising from servicing the meetings of the Committee.

18. The Committee's requirements for support services from the Office of Central Support Services consist of sound-engineering services as well as general operating expenses, including cleaning and utility costs. These costs, estimated on the basis of established standards, would amount to $269,100 for 2002. Given the current level of resources approved for the Office of Central Support Services by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/254 A of 24 December 2001, these additional costs cannot be absorbed from within the resources appropriated under section 27D.

19. It should also be noted that the recruitment of 41 translators and 30 text-processors on a short-term basis would require adequate common support services for those staff members. On the basis of the established common support standards, additional funds in the amount of $314,400 would be required for 2002 under section 27D for general operating expenses, including computers and other equipment maintenance costs and related supplies. The additional requirements for the Office of Central Support Services are detailed in annex II to the present report.

20. In summary, the additional requirements for 2002 associated with conference and support services for the Counter-Terrorism Committee would amount to $10,537,500, including $9,954,000 under section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services and $583,500 under section 27D, Central support services.

V. Conclusions and recommendations

21. The Security Council, in entrusting the Counter-Terrorism Committee with the task of monitoring the implementation of its resolution 1373 (2001), reaffirmed, among other things, that the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, like any act of international terrorism, constituted a threat to international peace and security. In order to respond to the provisions of resolution 1373 (2001), adequate provisions need to be made, not only for the substantive servicing of the Committee, but also for other services required for the conduct of its meetings. This would ensure sustained dialogue between States.

22. While provisions have been made in the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 for the secretariat of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, resources would be required to adequately service the meetings and documentation requirements of the Committee. An additional appropriation would be required, therefore, in the amount of $10,537,500, to the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, to support the meeting requirements of the Committee in 2002, as indicated below:

Section 2	**General Assembly affairs and conference services**	**$9 954 000**
Section 27D	**Central support services**	**$583 500**
Total		**$10 537 500**

23. Should the activities of the Committee be extended beyond 2002, the Secretary-General would need to submit supplementary proposals at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

24. The activities related to the servicing of the Counter-Terrorism Committee are of an extraordinary nature and should be dealt with as provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986.

Annex I

Estimated requirements for additional conference services for the Counter-Terrorism Committee in 2002

		Workload	*Amount (United States dollars)*
I.	**Meetings servicing**	**217 meetings**	
	Interpretation	**2,658 days**	**1 374 200**
	Conference officer	**304 days**	**35 200**
	Documentation clerk	**152 days**	**17 500**
	Subtotal		**1 426 900**
II.	**Pre-session documentation**	**6,000 pages**	
		570 documents	
	Translation/revision	**11,376 days**	**6 302 300**
	Typing	**8,615 days**	**1 111 300**
	Reproduction	**36,000 pages**	**402 400**
	Distribution	**2,323,420 documents**	**150 900**
	Subtotal		**7 966 900**
III.	**Summary records**	**52 meetings**	
	Précis-writing	**218 days**	**100 900**
	Translation	**546 days**	**252 800**
	Revision	**182 days**	**113 200**
	Typing	**382 days**	**49 300**
	Reproduction	**2,808 pages**	**31 100**
	Distribution	**198,900 documents**	**12 900**
	Subtotal		**560 200**
	Total		**9 954 000**

Annex II

Estimated requirements for common support services to be provided by the Office of Central Support Services in 2002

I. Accommodation of additional staff: 41 translators/revisers; 30 text-processors

(United States dollars)

	Translators	*Text-processors*	*Total*
Standard annual general operating expenses per post	5 400	3 100	8 500
Total costs for short-term posts	**221 400**	**93 000**	**314 400**

II. Common support services for the Counter-Terrorism Committee meetings: 217 meetings in 2002

(a) Standard common services costs for a three-hour meeting (sound engineering, cleaning, utilities): $1,240;

(b) Total common services costs: 217 x $1,240 = **$269,100**

Total I and II: **$583,500**